

REMARKS

Claims 1 and 3-23 are pending. Claims 1 and 3-23 appear to be rejected. Claims 1, 8-10, 12 and 15 are amended. Support for the amendments can be found throughout the application, for instance in the specification and claims as originally filed. No new matter is added. Claims 1 and 3-23 are therefore submitted for further consideration at this time. Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and withdrawal of all rejections.

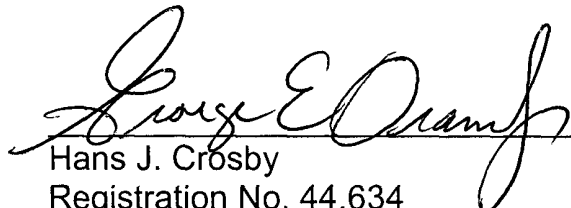
Claim Rejections - 35 U.S.C. 112

Claims 1, 8-10, 12 and 15 appear to be rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite. Applicants respectfully submit that any rejection (or objection) is moot in view of the claim amendments indicated herein, in accordance with the suggestions set forth at pages 2-3 of the Office Action. Applicants therefore urge withdrawal of all rejections.

In view of the amendments and remarks above, Applicants submit that this application is in condition for allowance and request favorable action thereon. Applicants point out that page 3 of the Office Action indicates that claims 1 and 3-23 are allowable once rewritten to overcome the rejections under 35 U.S.C. 112.

In the event this paper is not timely filed, Applicants hereby petition for an appropriate extension of time. The fee for this extension may be charged to our Deposit Account No. 01-2300, along with any other additional fees, which may be required with respect to this paper referencing Attorney Docket No. 108910-00006.

Respectfully submitted,


Hans J. Crosby
Registration No. 44,634
27931

Customer No. 004372
ARENT FOX KINTNER PLOTKIN & KAHN, PLLC
1050 Connecticut Avenue, N.W.,
Suite 400
Washington, D.C. 20036-5339
Tel: (202) 857-6000
Fax: (202) 638-4810

HJC/elz/ccd